

Meeting of the Highland Silver Lake Advisory Commission was called to order at 7:00PM, on Thursday, July 17, 2015. Members present: Gary Pugh, Bill Ambuehl, Dave Frey, Dan Shimer, Ron Wagner, Randy Ammann & department personnel Ryan Hummert, Natural Resources Manager & Mark Rosen, Director of Parks & Recreation. Absent: Fred Bircher & Sally Raeber  
Guests: Curt Messerli, Elizabeth Weiland  
Guest presenters: Jason Blevins; Director of Plains All American, Roy Lamoreaux; Director of Pipeline Community Ops Business Development & Andrew Maguire; On Scene Coordinator, U.S. EPA Region 5

Ron Wagner made a motion to approve the January 15, 2015 minutes. Dave Frey seconded.

Representatives from Plains Pipeline and the US EPA presented an overview of the oil spill that occurred on Friday, July 10, 2015. Mr. Blevins spoke about the events that led up to the leak and a brief explanation of the functionality of the facility's location. Ron Wagner asked when the leak started. Mr. Blevins answered that it leaked for approximately 20:30 (twenty-minutes and thirty-seconds) after the "pig" that was used in the pipeline reached the Wood River station. Mr. Blevins explained that a fitting broke and although there is someone that monitors this station daily and this specific part has not caused issues in the past, a third-party metallurgist will be examining it to determine why it failed. Randy Ammann asked if it was feasible to keep someone at the station 24/7 for such reasons as the one that happened as well as for Homeland Security reasons. Mr. Blevins stated that with over 2,000 stations such as this, it would not be. Ron W. also asked if there were pressure sensors on the equipment that would allow an alarm to be set off. Mr. Blevins stated that there are sensors on the primary lines but because this was a small line there wasn't.

Roy Lamoreaux asked what the mission/purpose of the Silver Lake Advisory Commission was. Director Rosen gave a brief explanation citing that the commission advises the city council on matters pertaining to the lake with primary focus on water quality, environment, conservation, recreation and be ambassadors for the lake. In turn, Mr. Lamoreaux gave an explanation of how the incident command system works followed by Andrew Maguire explaining his role with the U.S. EPA.

Ron W. continued with questions related to the number of gallons that entered the lake. Mr. Maguire replied that they don't have specific calculations because some already burned off and indicated that the bulk of oil remained in the creek channel. Another question from Ron W. was whether the oil presented any concerns for settling into the sediment. Mr. Maguire said that according to the MSDS information that there are no solids, however, they are taking plunger tests from the sediment to ensure this is not the case and from some of the samples already taken, no evidence is present. However, Mr. Blevins did make it known that there is a chance that some residue could be present from other sources; i.e. boat motors, run-off from the oil & chipped roads, etc. Testing; which is also being performed by a third-party will determine whether it is oil from the spill or not.

Bill Ambuehl asked what will happen if we receive a heavy rain. Mr. Maguire said that they would be prepared with so much work force in place and quite frankly, a little rain would be welcomed because it would re-suspend the material and make it easier to clean up.

Mr. Blevins did add that there is a containment berm around the structure but with the rain and saturated conditions the combination of rain and oil the berm failed.

Ron W. stated that he thought there should be better inspection of fittings. Mr. Blevins stated that they received a “one-call” July 2, 2015 (this is, what I believe I heard) that indicated that the fitting was scoured on the fitting but obviously did not get replaced in time.

Bill A. asked when the lake would open. Mike Buss; Water Treatment Supervisor, who is also part of the Incident Command team stated that they believe it is in the best interest to keep the lake closed until the work crews are completely finished in the lake. He added that even though they discussed multiple options of opening portions; i.e. south of Interstate 70, etc. the consensus was to simply keep it closed with the hope of being able to open it by early next week; June 20<sup>th</sup> week.

Mike continued by reminding everyone that there are many levels of ensuring transparency. From Plains Pipeline to the EPA and third party contractors, every conversation, action and plan is documented.

Mr. Lamoreaux expressed the company’s sincerest apologies for this and complimented the community, landowners, city staff and the committee for allowing them the opportunity to attend the meeting and explain. Mike Buss also complimented them for the way in which they conduct meetings, answer questions and the speed in which work is being completed because the working conditions are quite difficult. Director Rosen stated that although we have not had to deal with such a situation before, he believed that Plains Pipeline provided a great template for if, or when such an unfortunate situation would happen again.

Ron W. also asked if there was a concern about areas where vegetation has been removed to the ground as he is concerned about the risk of these areas washing additional, un-needed silt into the lake that is already a major concern to the Silver Lake Advisory members. Mr. Blevins stated that they would be happy to install silt-fences to alleviate this concern.

Mike B. concluded that there is a secondary pump in Old City Lake but that is present because even though there is no sheen or evidence that the main in-take is not being affected, Plains Pipeline felt it necessary as a precaution.

The second item discussed was from guest Elizabeth Weiland. She presented the commission members with a detailed proposal to “Clear Silver Lake Road from the “ROAD ENDS” Sign to the Lake to Give Paddlers Access to the Northeast End of the Lake.” (see attachment).

Upon her conclusion, Gary Pugh stated that in light of this situation, there are discussions being carried out that calls for such a thing in this location. Although the intention is to make it an emergency access point, commission members believe that it needs to be developed to accommodate recreational boating as well.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Director Rosen gave a brief update regarding the Dykstra property and that the contract is in her hands and we are awaiting comments from her.

Discussion on the Fish Cleaning station – Eagle Scout project was tabled.

Dave Frey made a motion to adjourn at 8:40PM – seconded by Dan Shimer.